



California State Numismatic Association (CSNA)  
Fourteenth (14th) Annual Northern California  
**'COIN COLLECTOR'S RETREAT'**  
"Coin Designers Plus Coins Equals Coin Collectors"  
[www.solanocoinclub.com](http://www.solanocoinclub.com)



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2013**

9:00 AM---Registration and Get-A-Acquainted Time  
9:30 AM To 4:30 PM---Program and Activities

**VALLEJO NAVAL AND HISTORICAL MUSEUM**  
**734 MARIN STREET, at Marin and Capital**  
**downtown VALLEJO, CALIFORNIA**  
**Second Floor, Heritage Theater**

Five Speakers—Museum Open—Drawings—Free Admission—More!  
Ample Free Street and Off-Street Parking—Easy Access—Elevator To Second Floor

Host: Vallejo Numismatic Society

Coordinator: Michael S. Turrini, President, California State Numismatic Association (CSNA)  
Museum Executive Director and Co-Host: James E. Kern

Presenters and Topics

**Robert E. Luna, Benicia, California**  
**'The Many Horns and Legs of the Buffalo Nickel'**

**Fred Holabird, Reno, Nevada**  
**'California's First Coin Designer'**

**Larry K. Casagrande, Concord, California**  
**'The Beauty of Seated Liberty Coinage'**

**James M. O'Dea, San Francisco, California**  
**'Saint Gaudens and His Coins and Art'**

and introducing 13 year-old young numismatist:

**Taylor A. Webb, Fremont, California**  
**'Gobrecht and His Works'**

**Directions:** To reach the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum, drive I-80 to Vallejo, California. Take the Georgia Street Exit WEST. Drive west about two miles to downtown Vallejo, and turn **RIGHT** at Sonoma Blvd., Highway 29. Drive **NORTH** two blocks and turn **LEFT** at Capital Street. Museum is one block **WEST** on the left at the corner of Marin and Capital. Parking is located on the street and behind the Museum. Note: On Saturday mornings, there is a 'farmers' market' in downtown Vallejo.

**Food Service:** Several eateries are within walking distance.

**Information:** Write To: 'PO Box 4281, Vallejo, California, 94590-0428'. Telephone: 707-246-6327. Email: [EMPERORI@juno.com](mailto:EMPERORI@juno.com). Museum: 707-643-0077 with Email at [yalmuse@pacbell.net](mailto:yalmuse@pacbell.net). Updates: [www.solanocoinclub.com](http://www.solanocoinclub.com).

**Lodging:** Write to above post office box for information about local motels.



# NCNA HEADS AND TALES

*The Official Publication of the*  
**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION**

## *Mission Statement*

**To Promote and To Serve Northern California Numismatics**

One Hundred-Eighth (108<sup>th</sup>) Issue

**September 2013**  
Volume XXXII, Number 3

**Editor**  
Michael S. Turrini

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*“Doing Nothing For Others Is The Undoing Of Ourselves.”*---Horace Mann

### 2013—2014 NCNA EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Fred G. van den Haak-----	President
Jon-Maria Marish-----	First Vice-President
Lloyd G. Chan-----	Second Vice-President
Donald L. Hill-----	Secretary
Michael S. Turrini-----	Treasurer

DEADLINE FOR ONE HUNDRED NINTH (109<sup>TH</sup>) ISSUE-----December 1<sup>st</sup>

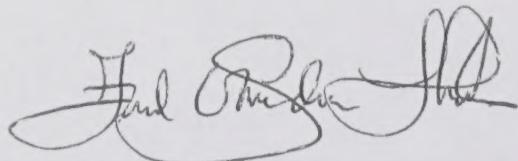
## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I, along with my wife, have just returned from a two month trip to Europe to celebrate my recent retirement, a truly major event in my life. We visited the Netherlands, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Russia, Sweden, Norway, Scotland and France, a wonderful and magically memorable trip to the “old world”, so very rich in history. My interest in numismatics brought me to many museums where I was able to view exceptional specimens of coins and medals. Additionally, I would see the coinage in circulation in the countries we visited with some interesting observations and experiences. Estonia had recently joined the Euro zone and now had its own Euro coins! The smallest circulating coins in Denmark were 50 Ore denomination coins equivalent to about U.S. 9 cents and in Norway, one krone coins equivalent to about 18 U.S. cents! Rather amazing economies that allow for such relatively high value coins relative to U.S. coins in circulation.

We have just completed our 2011 dated silver medal program to retroactively commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Northern California Numismatic Association. The final mintage for our 2011 silver medal was only 23 specimens (the lowest mintage in the series!) and all ordered medals have now been delivered. The medal featured a view of San Francisco and the Bay Bridge as viewed from Treasure Island, with the traditional “Gold Miner” design on the reverse. Our medal was again produced by Masterpiece Medallions of Claremont, Ca. Our compliments for the winning design by N.C.N.A. Board member Lloyd Chan, which turned out exceptionally nice.

I would like to remind members that the N.C.N.A. Board has established the “Gordon Russell Donnell Award”. This award will consist of a bronze medal with an image of Gordon and a blank reverse, suitable for engraving the award recipient name. These medals have now been struck and delivered and distribution based on request has now begun. This award will be somewhat unique for the N.C.N.A., as it will be offered to N.C.N.A. member Coin Clubs (Max. 2 per year), to recognize their Club members who hopefully share the enthusiasm, ideals and numismatic spirit as exemplified by Gordon Donnell. For the first inaugural year, the Board has decided to supply requested medals at no charge. Thereafter, likely a charge based on our costs, but this is still under consideration. This may be a very attractive way to recognize Coin Club members who have made significant contributions to the benefit of member Clubs or to our hobby in general.

I can be contacted via e mail: [fredvdh@gmail.com](mailto:fredvdh@gmail.com) , or by writing to P.O. Box 60484, Palo Alto, Ca. 94306-0484.



Fred G. van den Haak  
August 2013

## THE MINTMASTER'S QUILL: An Editor's Prerogative

*"A Society Grows Great When Old Men Plant Trees Whose Shade They Know They Shall Never Sit In."*----Greek Proverb

During the July 2013 Royal Canadian Numismatic Association (RCNA) Convention, held in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, our well-known distant member and confirmed coin celebrant, Clifford L. Mishler, attended and contributed to the Convention as the only official American Numismatic Association (ANA) presence.

Clifford and I have sparred and enjoyed a 'love and hate' relationship over the years, and he has readily accepted my invitations, with rare declinations, to travel, at his expense, out to northern California. Clifford receives my periodic commentaries and ramblings about the hobby plus the changing collecting and demographics that effect 'our world of money', calling these 'rib kickers'. While we meet only periodically, I have come to believe that he does appreciate my insights, while distaining my dress---shorts and flip-flops---and demeanor! And, he wants me to wear my tux more often, too! *LOL!*

But back to the Convention, during our sojourn, Clifford and I have a few opportunities to converse and to collaborate our thoughts, and in one of our conversations, he remarked, without passion or pride but with simplicity yet surety, that our hobby----*'this world of money'*----has been quite good to him, not just in the memories, great times, fellowships, and camaraderie, but also financially. This has led him to believe and to practice that he has '**to give back**'.

### **'To Give Back'.**

The word rung in my ears, and I have heard these powerful words before. These words are reflective of my own philosophic approach and attitude.

### **'To Give Back'.**

While neither at the level nor assets of our esteemed coin celebrant, Clifford, he has taught me, and you the readers, a great lesson: the measure of anyone who has enjoyed our hobby is '**to give back**'.

Clifford articulated a few examples of his 'giving back', which included his trip and travel to the Royal Canadian Numismatic Association (RCNA) Convention.

Anyone, or most anyone, reading this has had years, maybe decades, of satisfaction and savoring from 'our world of money', and the consistent increases in precious medals and rare coins confirms that anyone, or most anyone, who has had years and even decades, is and has earned well, in value.

Thus, there comes that time that point in life and that realization that the measure of a full long life is '**to give back**'. Clifford demonstrates that, and Your Editor has learned it too.

Closing, lest we forget: "*For It Is In The Giving That We Receive.*"----Saint Francis.

***Remember: Have Fun With Your Hobby! Always Serve Others! Enjoy Your Collecting! And, Create Hope and Do Good!***



## GOLD MINER DIGGINS: NCNA Happenings

### Board Meeting

President FRED G. van den HAAK is intending to hold an informal and relatively short **Board Meeting on Sunday, September 22, 2013 during the Livermore Valley (California) Coin Club's Third Annual Fall Show, which is held at the Livermore Valley Elks Lodge #2117, 940 Larkspur, off I-680, in Livermore, California.** President van den HAAK has not scheduled a set time; however, it would be in the morning hours. NCNA Individual Members, and Club Members via a Club Delegate, are encouraged to attend and to contact him beforehand at [fredvdh@gmail.com](mailto:fredvdh@gmail.com)

### Website

Our Association's Website, [www.solanocoinclub.com](http://www.solanocoinclub.com), is a joint site for our Association, the Fairfield Coin Club, Solano Silver Round Club, and Vallejo Numismatic Society, and the Webmaster is LLOYD G. CHAN, who has also taken over the Website, [www.calcoin.org](http://www.calcoin.org), for the California State Numismatic Association (CSNA). He is collaborating the inputs and information between and for both Sites.

'Doctor' CHAN----as he kindly addressed by his many acquaintances and students----updates regularly the coin show listings and the latest local coin club information; however, he needs corrections and changes in a punctual manner plus complete. He can be reached at [lchanfizz@aol.com](mailto:lchanfizz@aol.com).

It is on these Websites that the latest local coin club shows' information is posted.

### 'Donnell Awards'

Since the May 2013 NCNA HEADS AND TALES issue, there have been some additional requests for '*Donnell Awards*', and these would be processed and presented over the next few months. The January 2014 NCNA HEADS AND TALES issue would provide a roster of those recipients through 2013.

*Note:* To clarify, to Club Members, only a maximum of two (2) '*Donnell Awards*' are possible per Club per calendar year, and that is defined *within* the same calendar year. There is neither 'carry-over' nor 'present now for next year'.

### 'Miller Medal'

Our Association's coveted and highly honored '*Miller Medal*' remains; however, as this NCNA HEADS AND TALES issue goes to print, no honoree(s) has been selected for 2013. If someone(s) is selected for this year, the announcement would be in the next NCNA HEADS AND TALES.

### Northern California Educational Symposium

Attached with this issue is a flier for the California State Numismatic Association (CSNA) Northern California Educational Symposium on Saturday, September 28, 2013, returning to Vallejo, California. Several NCNAers are involved or associated with this Symposium, which the Association assists. NCNA Individual Members are encouraged to attend, even if for only part of the day.

As can be read on the flier, there is an impressive assemblage of presenters, including an enthused 13-year-old TAYLOR A. WEBB, from Fremont, California.

## ORTHELLO LANGWORTHY 'WALLY' WALLIS

1920—2013

*"The Greatest Tribute To The Dead Is Not The Grief But The Gratitude."*----Thornton Wilder

Among the various 'stuff' that **Othello Langworthy Wallis**----'Wally' to many, and always 'O.L. Wallis', but to this eulogist never anything but 'Mr. Wallis'----passed to me was his youthful mounting into a simple exhibit of the popular 1930s National Park stamp series. Mr. Wallis, then the youngster, took his time, used thin card stock and color paper, and pasted and framed each stamp for display. A few ago, in cleaning out decades of his accumulations and avocations, he passed these youthful creations to me. What these reflect about 'Wally' were cemented in his formative years: a passion for collecting, a sharing of his collections and knowledge, plus the wonders of nature, 'the great outdoors'.

In his life time which spanned nine decades, Mr. Wallis built collections plus exhibits, as well as wrote articles, for such diverse subjects as Indian arrowheads, stamps, Presidential Inaugural Medals, political items as pin backs, ephemera, Emperor Norton, gold miners on medals, medal designs, plus, his love, Admiral Dewey. In addition, some years ago, he sold to me his 'Bob' Hines wildlife prints, and he worked with and knew this legendary wildlife artist. His home displayed many of these accumulations and avocations and also housed an extensive library and reference materials.

In recent years, as age and later losing his driving privilege confined him to this San Rafael, California home, Mr. Wallis began the slow but steady process of 'cleaning out', since as he told this eulogist 'before the 'stuff' has its own life'. The Vallejo Numismatic Society, the California Exonumist Society (CES), his beloved Yosemite National Park, the National Park Service, and the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum, all shared from his decades of accumulations and avocations. In that, he was generous and supportive. Even at the time of our last visit, this past March 2013, he gave me his philatelic covers, which were quite diverse.

Mr. Wallis lived an impressive life: Eagle Scout, youthful philatelist, World War II Marine, who earned the Purple Heart on Okinawa, GI Bill college student, Park Ranger and later in retirement a 'VIP', 'Volunteer In The Park', aquatic biologist, and National Park Service manager, who was bestowed the Department of Interior's second highest honor upon his retirement.

His love, along with family and his diverse interests, was Yosemite, where he had been stationed once. Back in the primitive days before standards and safety, he recollected hiking alone for even a week through the high Sierras studying fish in the various Sierra Nevada Lakes. Of course, his intensity for collecting and nature would always in conversations about his life and career lead to his often repeated experiences of collecting trap-door spiders while under fire on Okinawa. To his many acquaintances, this remembrance was shared many times, and candidly, sparked his National Park Service career, when a Chief Ranger hired him at Crater Lake 'because he collected spiders under enemy fire'!

With this retirement , by his own words, he began another career and from the early 1970s into the 1990s as a 'fulltime numismatic advocate': repeated award winning exhibitor, frequent speaker, presenter at the both the northern and southern California State Numismatic Association (CSNA) Symposiums, editor for the San Francisco Coin Club's monthly TWO CENTS WORTH, editor for the California Exonumist Society (CES) quarterly MEDALLION, and at various times President, and also Vice-President in some, for San Francisco Coin Club, Pacific Coast Numismatic Society, CSNA, CES, the Northern California Numismatic Association (NCNA), and Vallejo Numismatic Society. These positions only add to being General Chairperson for about six CSNA state conventions, publicity

coordinator several events, plus historian duties, as well as other chores and assignments, including several positions with the long defunct Northern California Wooden Money Collectors (NCWMC).

His dedication was recognized with a Krause Publication's '*Numismatic Ambassador*', an American Numismatic Association (ANA) '*President's Award*', and the coveted CSNA's '*Medal of Merit*', plus NCNA's esteemed '*Miller Medal*'.

In short, his life typified the 'greatest generation', and it typified the enduring characteristic of that 'great generation': service onto others.

For me, Mr. Wallis was a most significant mentor, and he enticed me into both CSNA and NCNA. I had to prove to him and his standards that my efforts and endeavors were worthy of his standards---*an intensity approaching perfection*---and as the years progressed I earned his kind admiration and ready support.

But while his mentorship is important to this eulogist, the real reason for Mr. Wallis' remembrance is founded in his generation, 'the greatest generation', for that generation preached and practiced service onto and for others. If there is a singular lesson from his long and most contributing life, it would be this belief in and practice of service.

His passing is from another time and place, and our world has and shall spin many times. Others shall come and go, and only a dwindling number of numismatists, and those in his honored National Park Service, may remember him. Yet, Mr. Wallis enriched many and left much.

In closing, others, and other words, might reminisce about Mr. Wallis. But, among the ramblings of what some have thought about life comes this thought from the legendary boxer Joe Lewis: "***You Only Live Once; But, If You Do It Right, Once Is Enough.***"

Ending, for **Othello Langworthy Wallis** 'once was enough', and that once has left so many enriched but not just in fine memories but in a true measure of what a great life should be, ***must be***.

*Michael S. Turrini*  
Vallejo, California

# COIN SHOW SCHEDULE

These coin Club show listings are provided as a free service to the numismatic community by the Northern California Numismatic Association. Show listings are updated quarterly and are available without cost to member Coin Clubs. If you would like to have a show listed, please send all pertinent show information early to: N.C.N.A., Fred G. van den Haak, P.O. Box 60484, Palo Alto, Ca. 94306-0484. You may also e mail the information to: [fredvdh@gmail.com](mailto:fredvdh@gmail.com)

The joint website for the Fairfield Coin Club, Solano Silver Round Club, Vallejo Numismatic Society and Northern California Numismati8c Association is: [www.solanocoinclub.com](http://www.solanocoinclub.com)

Sept. 22, 2013 **LIVERMORE.** Livermore Valley Coin Club Third Fall Coin Show, Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur, Livermore. Bourse: Steve Kramer, P.O. Box 610, Livermore, Ca. 94551. Phone (925) 422-3794.

Sept. 28, 2013 **VALLEJO.** C.S.N.A. The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Northern California Educational Symposium, hosted by the Vallejo Numismatic Society. Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum, 734 Marin Street at Capital, in Downtown Vallejo. Four speakers have been scheduled. Theme: 'Coin Designers + Coins=Coin Collectors'. Registration for this all day event begins at 9AM with presentations beginning at 10AM; the afternoon program begins at 2PM. This is a "free" event and all interested collectors are welcome to attend. Ample free parking is available.

Oct. 4-5, 2013 **SACRAMENTO** Sacramento Valley Coin Club Annual Fall Coin Show. The Elks Lodge #6, 6446 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento 94831. Hours 10AM-6PM on Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> and 10AM to 4PM on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup>. Bourse: Robert Shanks, 10 Fox Oak Court, Sacramento, CA 95831. Phone: 916-204-5168. Ample Free parking. **Admission \$3.**

Oct. 12-3, 2013 **CONCORD.** Diablo Numismatic Society. 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Contra Costa Coin and Collectables Show, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 45 John Glenn Drive, Concord. Diablo Numismatic Society, P.O. Box 177, Concord, Ca. 94522. Website: [diablocoinclub.org](http://diablocoinclub.org) Bourse: James Laird (925) 200-2276. **ADMISSION \$3.**

Oct. 19-20, 2013 **STOCKTON.** Delta Coin Club 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Coin Show, Eagles Hall, 1492 Bourbon Street, Stockton. Bourse: Ruben Smith III, P.O. Box 5787, Stockton, CA. 95205. Phone (209) 982-5961, E Mail: [rubensmith@hotmail.com](mailto:rubensmith@hotmail.com).

Nov. 3, 2013 **SAN JOSE.** Peninsula Coin Club 34th Annual Coins and Collectibles Show, Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose. Bourse: Fred van den Haak, P.O. Box 60484, Palo Alto, Ca. 94306. Phone: (650) 380-4181 E Mail: [fredvdh@gmail.com](mailto:fredvdh@gmail.com)

Jan. 24-6, 2014

**SAN JOSE**. San Jose 46th Coin, Stamp and Collectibles Show, Double Tree Hotel, Bayshore Ballroom, 2050 Gateway Place, San Jose, CA 95110. Bourse: Ray Johnson, P. O. Box 10416 San Jose, CA. 95157-1416, Phone: 408-598-7772 [sanjosecoins@aol.com](mailto:sanjosecoins@aol.com). Website: [www.sanjosecoinclub.org](http://www.sanjosecoinclub.org) **Admission \$3/\$1 off with any advertising.**

Feb. 16, 2014

**SAN JOSE**. "Cupertino" Coin Club 42nd Annual Coin Show, Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose. Bourse: Bruce Braga (408) 839-1883 or Cupertino Coin Club, P.O. Box 448, Cupertino, CA 95015-0448. Free Parking. **Admission: \$2 adults**, youth 17 & under free.

May 4, 2014

**VALLEJO**. Vallejo Numismatic Society 42nd Annual Show, Veteran's Memorial Building, 420 Admiral Callaghan Lane, Vallejo. (off Redwood Parkway and turn south on Admiral Callaghan) Bourse: Edwin Hoffmark, PO Box 4281, Vallejo, Ca. 94590 Phone: 707-642-8754. Information: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4104, Vallejo, Ca. 94590-0410. Phone: 707-246-6327, e mail: [EMPERORI@juno.com](mailto:EMPERORI@juno.com).

July 12-13, 2014

**VALLEJO**. California State Numismatic Association (C.S.N.A.) 132<sup>nd</sup> Convention and Coin Show, Hours: Saturday 9 AM-5 PM, Sunday 9 AM-4 PM. Veteran's Memorial Building, 420 Admiral Callaghan Lane, Vallejo. (off Redwood Parkway and turn south on Admiral Callahan). Bourse: Fred van den Haak, P.O. Box 60484, Palo Alto, CA 94306-0484. (650) 380-4181 E Mail: [fredvdh@gmail.com](mailto:fredvdh@gmail.com) Updates: [www.calcoin.org](http://www.calcoin.org).

July 26-7, 2014

**FREMONT**. Fremont Coin Club 42st Annual Show, Elk's Hall, 38991 Farwell Drive, Fremont, Ca. Information: (510) 792-1511; Bourse: Vince Lacariere, P.O. Box 1401, Fremont, Ca. 94538

Oct. 18-19, 2014

**STOCKTON**. Delta Coin Club 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Coin Show, Eagles Hall, 1492 Bourbon Street, Stockton. Bourse: Ruben Smith III, P.O. Box 5787, Stockton, CA. 95205. Phone (209) 982-5961, E Mail: [rubensmith@hotmail.com](mailto:rubensmith@hotmail.com).

Nov. 2, 2014

**SAN JOSE**. Peninsula Coin Club 35th Annual Coins and Collectibles Show, Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose. Bourse: Fred van den Haak, P.O. Box 60484, Palo Alto, Ca. 94306. Phone: (650) 380-4181 E Mail: [fredvdh@gmail.com](mailto:fredvdh@gmail.com)

Feb. 15, 2015

**SAN JOSE**. "Cupertino" Coin Club 43rd Annual Coin Show, Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose. Bourse: Bruce Braga (408) 839-1883 or Cupertino Coin Club, P.O. Box 448, Cupertino, CA 95015-0448. Free Parking. **Admission: \$2 adults**, youth 17 and under free.